Bilateral trade agreement between India and ASEAN

935. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and ASEAN have finalized bilateral trade agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of trade between India and ASEAN;

(d) the quantum of trade likely to increase after the finalisation of latest agreement;

(e) the commodities being traded between India and ASEAN; and

(f) the situation of trade balance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The value of India's export to ASEAN during 2007-08 was Rs. 65,93,187.59 lacs. The value of India's import from ASEAN during 2007-08 was Rs. 91,24,477.42 lacs.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The main items of India's export to ASEAN are petroleum (crude and products), Oil meals, transport equipments, non-ferrous metals, machinery and instruments, gems and jewellery and primary and semi-finished iron and steel and the main items of India's import from ASEAN are petroleum crude and products, electronic goods, vegetable oils, machinery, coal coke and briquettes, organic chemicals and transport equipments.

(f) The trade balance during 2007-08 was in favour of ASEAN.

Ban on import of Chinese Dairy Products

936. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has imposed a ban on the import of Chinese dairy products after these items were found contaminated in China;

(b) whether steps are being taken to effectively implement the above ban;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has prohibited import of milk and milk products from China upto 23rd June, 2009. Import of chocolates, chocolate products and candies/confectionery/food preparations with milk or milk solids as an ingredient from China has also been prohibited for six months *vide* Notification No. 67 dated 1st December, 2008.